

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Philip D. Nguyen

Attorney Docket No.: 2000-IP-043

Serial No.: 09/882,572

Examiner: William Neuder

Filed: June 13, 2001

Art Group Unit: 3672

For: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GRAVEL
PACKING OR FRAC PACKING WELLS**

**PETITION TO WITHDRAW NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT
AND CONSIDER TIMELY FILED RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant responded in a timely manner to the Office Action of August 7, 2002 by submitting a timely and complete Response by express mail on January 24, 2003 (copy of express mail mailing receipt with date stamp attached) and received in the Patent and Trademark Office on January 24, 2003 as evidenced by the postcard receipt (copy attached). The serial number referenced on the Response was in error, i.e., 09/882,582, but should have been 09/882,572. Consequently, the examiner, William Neuder, evidently never received the Response and issued a Notice of Abandonment on March 7, 2003. The typographical mistake was unintentional and only discovered upon a review of the Notice of Abandonment. For convenience, Applicant attaches a copy of the Response as filed on January 24, 2003 for forwarding to the examiner or other use as you see fit.

Applicant is submitting a Petition for Revival of an Application Abandoned Unintentionally under 37 CFR 1.137(b) herewith along with the required fee. However, Applicant believes such a Revival and fee are unnecessary and hereby petitions the Commissioner under 37 CFR 1.181 for a withdrawal of the Notice of Abandonment and consideration of the Response. Alternately, Applicant petitions for Revival of the application.

Please call Peter V. Schroeder at 214-220-0444 with any questions.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any fees or make any refunds under 37 CFR § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 03-3840. A duplicate copy of this fee authorization sheet is enclosed for this purpose.

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Dated: March 21, 2003

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DATE OF DEPOSIT: March 21, 2003

Virginia Born

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Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Respectfully submitted,



Peter V. Schroeder, Reg. No. 42,132

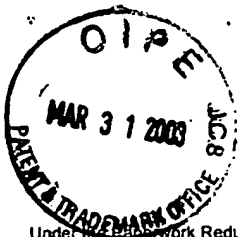
CRUTSINGER & BOOTH

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Dallas, Texas 75201-4744

(214) 220-0444; Fax (214) 220-0445

Attorneys for Applicant



**PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED
UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)**

Docket Number (Optional)

2000-IP-043

First named inventor: Philip D. Nguyen

Application No.: 09/882,572

Art Unit: 3672

Filed: 06/13/2001

Examiner: William Neuder

Title: Methods and Apparatus for Gravel Packing or Frac Packing Wells

Attention: Office of Petitions
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box DAC
Washington, D.C. 20231

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions
Information at (703) 305-9282.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper reply to a
notice or action by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The date of abandonment is the day after the
expiration date of the period set for reply in the Office notice or action plus an extensions of time
actually obtained.

APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR REVIVAL OF THIS APPLICATION

NOTE: A grantable petition requires the following items:

- (1) Petition fee;
- (2) Reply and/or issue fee;
- (3) Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee --required for all utility and plant applications
filed before June 8, 1995; and for all design applications; and
- (4) Statement that the entire delay was unintentional.

1. Petition fee

☐ Small entity-fee \$ _____ (37 CFR 1.17(m)). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☒ Other than small entity - fee \$ 1300 (37 CFR 1.17(m))

2. Reply and/or fee

A. The reply and/or fee to the above-noted Office action in
the form of Response to Notice of Abandonment (identify type of reply):

- ☐ has been filed previously on _____.
- ☒ is enclosed herewith.

B. The issue fee of \$ _____.

- ☐ has been paid previously on _____.
- ☐ is enclosed herewith.

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[Page 1 of 2]

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3. Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee

- ☒ Since this utility/plant application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.
- ☐ A terminal disclaimer (and disclaimer fee (37 CFR 1.20(d)) of \$ _____ for a small entity or \$ _____ for other than a small entity) disclaiming the required period of time is enclosed herewith (see PTO/SB/63).

4. STATEMENT: The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. [NOTE. The United States Patent and Trademark Office may require additional information if there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional (MPEP 711.03(c), subsections (III)(C) and (D))].

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

March 21, 2003

Date


Signature

Telephone

Number: (214) 220-0444

Peter V. Schroeder

Typed or printed name

Crutsinger & Booth

1601 Elm Street, Suite 1950

Address

Dallas, TX 75201-4744

Enclosures: ☒ Fee Payment

☒ Reply

☐ Terminal Disclaimer Form

☒ Additional sheets containing statements establishing unintentional delay

☒ Other: Transmittal Form; Fee Transmittal Form

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]

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- ☐ transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 308-6916.

March 21, 2003

Date


Signature

Virginia A. Born

Type or printed name of person signing certificate

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Philip D. Nguyen, et al.

Attorney Docket: 2000-IP-043

Serial No.: 09/882,582 ~~582~~ 572

Group Art Unit: 3672

Filed: June 13, 2001

Examiner: William P. Neuder

For: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GRAVEL
PACKING OR FRAC PACKING WELLS**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF AUGUST 7, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Amendments
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 7, 2002, a Petition for Extension filed herewith, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

1 1. (Amended) Apparatus for treating an interval of a wellbore, said apparatus
2 comprising:
3 a sand screen unit adapted to be connected to the lower end of a workstring; and
4 [delivery means] a plurality of axially spaced, substantially blank conduits on the external
5 surface of said sand screen unit for delivering a particulate-containing fluid suspension to
6 different axial portions of said interval when said apparatus is in an operable position within said
7 wellbore.

1 2. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, [wherein said delivery means comprises:]
2 [a] the plurality of blank conduits extending longitudinally along said external surface of
3 said screen unit, each of said conduits extending only a portion of the length of said interval and,
4 at least one of said conduits having a lower end that terminates at a different level within said
5 interval than the others.

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1 3. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, [wherein said delivery means comprises:]
2 [a] the plurality of blank conduits extending longitudinally along said external
3 surface of said screen each of said conduits extending only a portion of the length of said interval
4 and, at lest one of said conduits having an upper end positioned at a different level within said
5 interval than the others.

1 4. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 including:
2 a shroud surrounding said sand screen unit and said delivery means, said shroud having a
3 plurality of openings in the wall thereof.

1 6. (Amended) Apparatus for gravel packing an interval of a wellbore by supplying a
2 gravel bearing slurry, said apparatus comprising:
3 a sand screen unit adapted to be connected to the lower end of a workstring; and
4 a plurality of substantially blank tubes with the tube ends axially spaced [on] about the
5 external surface of the sand screen unit for selectively delivering gravel slurry at a plurality of
6 spaced axial locations of said interval when said apparatus is in an operable position within said
7 wellbore.

1 7. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 6, [wherein said delivery means comprises:]
2 [a] the plurality of substantially blank [conduits] tubes extending longitudinally along
3 said external surface of said screen unit, at least one of said [conduits] tubes having a lower end
4 that terminates at a different level within said interval than the others.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 6, [wherein said delivery means comprises:]
2 [a] the plurality of substantially blank [conduits] tubes extending longitudinally along
3 said external surface of said screen unit, at least one of said [conduits] tubes having an upper end
4 positioned at a different level within said interval than the others.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 6, including a shroud surrounding said sand screen unit
2 and covering said blank tubes, said shroud having a plurality of openings in the wall thereof.

Please add the following New Claims:

1 33. The apparatus of claim 1, at least one of the plurality of conduits
2 extending longitudinally along said screen unit less than half the length of said screen
3 unit.

1 34. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second sand screen unit
2 connected to said sand screen unit by a connector.

1 35. The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the ends of the conduits are spaced
2 apart from the connector.

1 36. The apparatus of claim 1, the plurality of blank conduits extending
2 longitudinally along said sand screen unit, the blank conduits extending only a portion
3 of the length of said sand screen unit.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 1, the blank conduits having open ends.

1 38. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the wellbore is uncased.

1 39. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one pair of said blank tubes are
2 substantially coaxially disposed in a spaced-apart, end-to-end orientation.

1 40. The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a second sand screen unit
2 connected to the sand screen unit by a connector.

1 41. The apparatus of claim 40, the ends of the blank tubes longitudinally
2 spaced from the connector.

1 42. The apparatus of claim 6, the plurality of blank tubes extending
2 longitudinally along only a portion of said sand screen unit.

1 43. The assembly of claim 25, the at least one blank conduit having a solid
2 conduit wall, the only openings in the conduit at or near the ends thereof.

1 44. An apparatus for treating an interval of a wellbore, the apparatus
2 comprising:
3 sand screen unit having a connector at each end for connecting the sand screen
4 unit to a workstring;
5 a plurality of longitudinally extending conduits axially spaced around the outside
6 of the sand screen unit, the conduits having ends thereto, the ends of the conduits
7 longitudinally spaced apart from the sand screen unit connectors.

1 45. The apparatus of claim 44, wherein at least two of the conduits are
2 substantially coaxially disposed in a spaced-apart, end-to-end relation.

1 46. The apparatus of claim 44, further comprising:
2 a shroud disposed about the sand screen unit and plurality of conduits.

1 47. The apparatus of claim 44, the conduits only open at the ends thereof.

1 48. The apparatus of claim 44, the ends of the conduits beveled.

1 49. The apparatus of claim 44, at least one of the conduits having an end at a
2 location longitudinally spaced from the ends of at least one of the other conduits.

1 50. The apparatus of claim 44, the conduits mounted on the outer surface of
2 the screen unit.

1 51. The apparatus of claim 44, further comprising a second sand screen unit
2 connected to one of the connectors.

1 52. The apparatus of claim 51, the second sand screen unit having a plurality
2 of longitudinally extending conduits axially spaced around the second sand screen unit,
3 the conduits of the second sand screen unit longitudinally spaced from the conduits of
4 the first sand screen unit.

1 53. The apparatus of claim 52, the conduits of the first and second sand
2 screen units unconnected one to another.

REMARKS

The Office Action of August 7, 2002 has been carefully reviewed along with the prior art cited therein. Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. New Claims 33-54 are added. All of the Claims except Claims 11 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Bryant. Applicants are well aware of Bryant, having cited it in the application, and in no event does Bryant disclose the invention. Specification, p. 6, line 26 and following.

Bryant discloses a connection system for fluidly connecting shunt tubes between two screen units (or joints) 11a and 11b. Each screen unit 11 has a plurality of shunt tubes 14, each perforated 15 along their length for delivery of gravel slurry from the shunt tubes 14 to the well annulus. The problem addressed in Bryant is the connection of the shunt tubes 14 on one screen joint 11a to the shunt tubes on the adjacent screen joint 11b. Bryant discloses use of a sleeve assembly 30 which creates a manifold annulus 31 which fluidly connects the sets of shunt tubes without requiring that each shunt tube be connected with a separate connector to a corresponding shunt tube on the adjacent screen unit. See, for example, Figures 2 and 3; Abstract; Col. 3, line 20 – Col. 4, line 13; Col. 5, lines 10-19; Col. 6, line 17- Col. 7, line 12.

Applicants' invention does not attempt to provide a connector for connecting shunt tubes on adjacent screen units. In fact, one of the improvements of Applicants' invention is that it does not require the connection of shunt tubes on adjacent screen units. The invention, as claimed, requires that the shunt tubes be substantially blank, that is, substantially unperforated. Specification, p. 11, lines 11-25, for example. The delivery of slurry to the well annulus (cased or uncased) is accomplished through the open ends of the shunt tubes. Consequently, the shunt tubes do not extend the full length of the screen unit, because they are not intended to be directly connected (via a manifold or tube-to-tube connector) to corresponding shunt tubes on an adjacent screen unit. The shunt tubes of previous inventions extend the full length of the screen unit – in Bryant, the tubes extend from the connector manifold on one end of the screen unit to the connector manifold on the other end. The independent Claims require blank, or substantially blank, shunt tubes. Such tubes are not disclosed or taught in Bryant. The substantially blank tubes are not designed primarily to deliver slurry out of

perforations in the tube, but rather to provide a conduit from one end of the tube to the other for bypassing a sand bridge if one develops. In additional claims, the end of one tube is required to terminate at a different level than the ends of the other tubes. This is not taught in Bryant. Since the Bryant apparatus is designed to shuttle slurry from one end of the screen unit to the other, the tubes terminate at the same level as one another. The tubes are the same length, namely at least the distance from one connector manifold to the other. As to Claim 10, Bryant does not disclose tubes in spaced apart end-to-end relationship on a single screen unit. The spacing in Bryant is between tubes on adjacent screen units. Some of the Claim language has been amended to make more clear that the Claims are referring, where appropriate, to a single "screen unit." For these reasons the Claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

If the examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conference would speed prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call Peter Schroeder at 214-220-0444.

Dated: January 24, 2003

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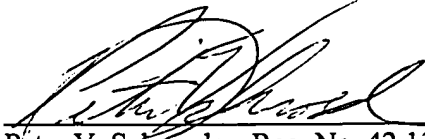
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Virginia Born
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Respectfully submitted:


Peter V. Schroeder, Reg. No. 42,132
CRUTSINGER & BOOTH
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Dallas, Texas 75201-4744
(214) 220-0444; Fax (214) 220-0445

Attorneys for Applicants

CLEAN CLAIMS

1 1. Apparatus for treating an interval of a wellbore, said apparatus comprising:
2 a sand screen unit adapted to be connected to the lower end of a workstring; and
3 a plurality of axially spaced, substantially blank conduits on the external surface of said
4 sand screen unit for delivering a particulate-containing fluid suspension to different axial portions
5 of said interval when said apparatus is in an operable position within said wellbore.

1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, the plurality of blank conduits extending
2 longitudinally along said external surface of said screen unit, each of said conduits extending only
3 a portion of the length of said interval and, at least one of said conduits having a lower end that
4 terminates at a different level within said interval than the others.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 1, the plurality of blank conduits extending
2 longitudinally along said external surface of said screen each of said conduits extending
3 only a portion of the length of said interval and, at lest one of said conduits having an
4 upper end positioned at a different level within said interval than the others.

1 4. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, including:
2 a shroud surrounding said sand screen unit and said delivery means, said shroud having a
3 plurality of openings in the wall thereof.

1 6. Apparatus for gravel packing an interval of a wellbore by supplying a gravel
2 bearing slurry, said apparatus comprising:
3 a sand screen unit adapted to be connected to the lower end of a workstring; and
4 a plurality of substantially blank tubes with the tube ends axially spaced about the
5 external surface of the sand screen unit for selectively delivering gravel slurry at a plurality of
6 spaced axial locations of said interval when said apparatus is in an operable position within said
7 wellbore.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6, the plurality of substantially blank tubes extending
2 longitudinally along said external surface of said screen unit, at least one of said tubes having a
3 lower end that terminates at a different level within said interval than the others.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 6, the plurality of substantially blank tubes extending
2 longitudinally along said external surface of said screen unit, at least one of said tubes having an upper
3 end positioned at a different level within said interval than the others.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 6, including a shroud surrounding said sand screen
2 unit and covering said blank tubes, said shroud having a plurality of openings in the wall
3 thereof.

1 33. The apparatus of claim 1, at least one of the plurality of conduits extending
2 longitudinally along said screen unit less than half the length of said screen unit.

1 34. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second sand screen unit
2 connected to said sand screen unit by a connector.

1 35. The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the end of the conduits are spaced apart
2 from the connector.

1 36. The apparatus of claim 1, the plurality of blank conduits extending
2 longitudinally along said sand screen unit, the blank conduits extending only a portion of
3 the length of said sand screen unit.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 1, the blank conduits having open ends.

1 38. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the wellbore is uncased.

1 39. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one pair of said blank tubes are
2 substantially coaxially disposed in a spaced-apart, end-to-end orientation.

1 40. The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a second sand screen unit
2 connected to the sand screen unit by a connector.

1 41. The apparatus of claim 40, the ends of the blank tubes longitudinally spaced
2 from the connector

1 42. The apparatus of claim 6, the plurality of blank tubes extending
2 longitudinally along only a portion of said sand screen unit.

1 43. The assembly of claim 25, the at least one blank conduit having a solid
2 conduit wall, the only openings in the conduit at or near the ends thereof.

1 44. An apparatus for treating an interval of a wellbore, the apparatus
2 comprising
3 sand screen unit having a connector at each end for connecting the sand screen unit
4 to a workstring;
5 a plurality of longitudinally extending conduits axially spaced around the outside of
6 the sand screen unit, the conduits having ends thereto, the ends of the conduits
7 longitudinally spaced apart from the sand screen unit connectors.

1 45. The apparatus of claim 44, wherein at least two of the conduits are
2 substantially coaxially disposed in a spaced-apart, end-to-end relation.

1 46. The apparatus of claim 44, further comprising:
2 a shroud disposed about the sand screen unit and plurality of conduits.

1 47. The apparatus of claim 44, the conduits only open at the ends thereof.

1 48. The apparatus of claim 44, the ends of the conduits beveled.

1 49. The apparatus of claim 44, at least one of the conduits having an end at a
2 location longitudinally spaced from the ends of at least one of the other conduits.

1 50. The apparatus of claim 44, the conduits mounted on the outer surface of the
2 screen unit.

1 51. The apparatus of claim 44, further comprising a second sand screen unit
2 connected to one of the connectors.

1 52. The apparatus of claim 51, the second sand screen unit having a plurality of
2 longitudinally extending conduits axially spaced around the second sand screen unit, the
3 conduits of the second sand screen unit longitudinally spaced from the conduits of the first
4 sand screen unit.

1 53. The apparatus of claim 52, the conduits of the first and second sand screen
2 units unconnected one to another.

1 54. The apparatus of claim 44, the conduits arranged in staggered rows.

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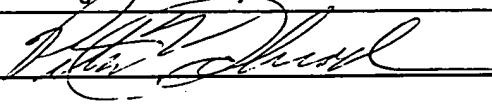
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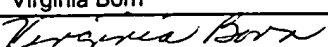
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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/882,582 572	
	Filing Date	06/13/2001	
	First Named Inventor	Philip D. Nguyen	
	Group Art Unit	3672	
	Examiner Name	William P. Neuder	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	14	Attorney Docket Number	2000-IP-043

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Crutsinger & Booth by Peter V. Schroeder
Signature	
Date	January 24, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
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Typed or printed name	Virginia Born	Date	January 24, 2003
Signature			

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 1,410

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/882,582 572
Filing Date	06/13/2001
First Named Inventor	Philip D. Nguyen
Examiner Name	William D. Neuder
Art Unit	3672
Attorney Docket No.	2000-IP-043

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☒ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number	03-3840
Deposit Account Name	Crutsinger & Booth

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	2001	740	370	Utility filing fee	
1002	2002	330	165	Design filing fee	
1003	2003	510	255	Plant filing fee	
1004	2004	740	370	Reissue filing fee	
1005	2005	160	80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
54	-20** = 22	18	396
1	-3** = 1	84	84
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	2202	18	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	2201	84	42	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	2203	280	140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	2204	84	42	** Reissue Independent claims over original patent
1205	2205	18	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 480

**or number previously paid, if greater. For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	2051	130	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	2052	50	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	1053	130	130	Non-English specification	
1812	1812	2,520	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804	1804	920*	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1805	1,840*	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	2251	110	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	2252	400	200	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	2253	920	460	Extension for reply within third month	930
1254	2254	1,440	720	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2255	1,960	980	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	2401	320	160	Notice of Appeal	
1402	2402	320	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	2403	280	140	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1451	1,510	1,510	Petition to Institute a public use proceeding	
1452	2452	110	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	2453	1,280	640	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	2501	1,280	640	Utility Issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	2502	460	230	Design Issue fee	
1503	2503	620	310	Plant Issue fee	
1460	1460	130	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	1807	50	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	1806	180	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	8021	40	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	2809	740	370	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	2810	740	370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	2801	740	370	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	1802	900	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)					
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid					
SUBTOTAL (3)					(\$ 930

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Peter V. Schroeder	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,132	Telephone	214-220-0444
Signature		Date	January 24, 2003		

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD					Application or Docket Number 2000-IP-043	
CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I					SMALL ENTITY OR OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
(Column 1)		(Column 2)				
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA			RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))					\$	\$
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))		minus 20 = *			x \$	=
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))		minus 3 = *			x	=
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(d))					+	=
					TOTAL	TOTAL
<p>* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2</p>						
CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II					SMALL ENTITY OR OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		(Column 3)		
AMENDMENT A	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDI-TIONAL FEE
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	x \$	=
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	x	=
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))				+	=
					TOTAL	TOTAL
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		(Column 3)		
AMENDMENT B	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDI-TIONAL FEE
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	x \$	=
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	x	=
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))				+	=
					TOTAL	TOTAL
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		(Column 3)		
AMENDMENT C	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA		RATE	ADDI-TIONAL FEE
	Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	x \$	=
	Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	x	=
	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))				+	=
					TOTAL	TOTAL
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		(Column 3)		
<p>* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3. ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20". *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.</p>						

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)		Docket Number (Optional) 2000-IP-043
In re Application of Philip D. Nguyen, et al.		
Application Number 09/882,582 572	Filed 06/13/2001	
For METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GRAVEL PACKING OR FRAC PACKING WELLS		
Group Art Unit 3672	Examiner William P. Neuder	

This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application.

The requested extension and appropriate non-small-entity fee are as follows (check time period desired):

- ☐ One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1))
☐ Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2))
☒ Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3))
☐ Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4))
☐ Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5))

\$ _____
 \$ _____
 \$ 930

- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee amount shown above is reduced by one-half, and the resulting fee is: \$ _____
☒ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Commissioner has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account.
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 03-3840.
 I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.


I am the ☐ applicant/inventor

- ☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
 Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).
☒ attorney or agent of record.
☐ attorney or agent under 37 CFR 1.34(a).
 Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a) _____

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Jan. 24, 2003

Date


Signature

Peter V. Schroeder

Typed or printed name

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ Total of 4 forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.1 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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